

HOLDUP TRIO FLEE WITH CLERK'S \$1,189

Pounce on Man Near Brooklyn Bank and Escape in Automobile.

LARGE CROWD IS NEAR

Negro Grabs Harlem Woman's Bag, but Her Screams Bring Aid.

BOY'S WILD THEFT TALE

Hoodwinked by Stranger, He Invents Story of Bold Attack in 33d Street.

Eugene Rokasch, a clerk employed in the wholesale tobacco firm of Bernard Brosowsky, at 362 Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn, was approaching the People's Trust Company, at Myrtle and Clinton avenues, near Wallabout Market, Brooklyn, at 11 o'clock yesterday morning when three men who had been waiting in a black touring car at the curb leaped upon him and took from him a bag containing \$1,189 in cash and some checks. Then the three escaped in the automobile before the hundreds of persons who were in that vicinity could stop them.

Rokasch, who is 42 years old and lives at 7 West 113th street, was taking the money to the bank for deposit. The bandits used no weapons on him, and when he was pulled to his feet he said he had not been hurt. One man had caught him by the neck and forced him to the sidewalk, while the two others pulled the bag from his hands.

The clerk went to the Classon avenue police station and reported the robbery. Patrolmen Robert R. Harris and Joseph J. Smith were assigned to the case and the Detective Bureau at Police Headquarters also was notified. Rokasch was able to give the police a fairly workable description of the three men and the automobile.

Mrs. Addie Harris of 574 St. Nicholas avenue was walking north on St. Nicholas avenue, near 138th street, at 8 o'clock last night when a negro who said later he was John Reid, aged 20, a strikebreaker of 38 West 132d street, came up beside her, grabbed her handbag and started running across St. Nicholas park.

Mrs. Harris screamed and started after the man. Her cries were heard by Patrolman Monahan and Detectives Winterhalter and Nelson of the West 135th street station, who joined the chase. The negro was outrunning them and had reached St. Nicholas terrace, the western boundary of the park, when the detectives pulled their guns and began firing. The negro stopped and stood with his hands above his head until the detectives came up and got him. The detectives said they found Mrs. Harris's bag, which contained only a few dollars, lying on the ground at the negro's feet.

Reid was taken to the West 135th street station charged with grand larceny.

Boy Outwitted, Tells Wild Tale.

Herbert Dorblan, age 16, of 167 Van Buren street, Brooklyn, a messenger employed by Anne G. Lavrowsky of 241 Fifth avenue, told a story to the police yesterday afternoon of having been blackjacked and robbed in West Thirtieth street, near Sixth avenue, but he admitted last night that he had merely been victimized by a young man who had offered to hold his package, which contained \$50 worth of artificial flowers. The boy was directed to take the package to a place near Eighth avenue. When near Eighth avenue, Dorblan, a young man stopped him and offered to hold the package while the boy went to a nearby loft building to see if the stranger's sweetheart, "Rosie," was still waiting for him. The boy went and found there was no Rosie, and when he returned the young man was gone with the package. To cover his chagrin he invented the story of having been blackjacked.

BRUNEN JURY ATTENDS MOTION PICTURE SHOW

Afternoon Spent in Visit to House at Riverside.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. MOUNT HOLLY, N. J., Dec. 16.—The jurors in whose hands rests the fate of Mrs. Doris Brunen and her brother, Harry C. Mohr, on trial for the murder of the former's husband, John Brunen, circus owner, in his home at Riverside on March 10 last, went to a theater tonight and saw a moving picture. Special permission for them to visit the theater was given by Justice Kalsch to break the monotony of a weary week in which the gruesome details of the Brunen tragedy have been poured into their ears. They also will be permitted to attend church services tomorrow morning.

In the afternoon the jurors were taken in automobiles on a tour of inspection of the Brunen house at Riverside and also went over the ground that Charles M. Powell said he covered between the Brunen house and the Cambridge station after firing the shot that killed the circus man. It was Powell who testified that Harry Mohr had hired him to slay Brunen. Detective Parker went along with the jurors, but neither prosecution nor defense was represented.

Mrs. Brunen is showing the strain to which she has been subjected during the week and was not well to-day.

TWO SUSPECTS HELD FOR HERVISH MURDER

Officials Grill 17 Wallington Men on Crime.

Bergen county police who have been investigating the murder of Christina Hervish, 17, of 123 Hayward avenue, Wallington, N. J., on Thanksgiving night, have arrested Peter Martinec, 21, and Michael Mihalko, 25, both of 123 Johnson avenue, Wallington. They are charged with being accessories to the crime and are being held in the county jail at Hackensack.

Mrs. Hervish was murdered on her way home after a visit with relatives in East Rutherford. Her body was found in a clump of bushes on the greenhouse property of the Julius Roehrs Company, in Paterson avenue, Wallington, next morning. Seventeen young men who live in that vicinity were rounded up Friday night, but all except Martinec and Mihalko, who board with the parents of Martinec, were released. Their stories as to their movements on the night of the murder were said by the police to have been in conflict.

LUCK COMES WITH SHIMMY'S RETURN TO JOE M'DONOUGH

Blind Man Is Recipient of Business Offer as 'His Eyes' Bark a Joyous 'How De Do'—Opera Tenor, Whose Brother Is Sightless, Gives Joe Chance to Open Newsstand at Millwood.

Joe McDonough, who lives in the dark on Hard Knocks alley, and Benjamin Gigg, who dwells in the foot-lights of the Metropolitan Opera House, formed a partnership. Joe is the president and business manager and the blind tenor has furnished the capital. But the silent partner in the firm is the one responsible for the formation of the corporation—a plain mongrel dog whom Joe calls Shimmy.

Shimmy has been Joe's sight and life and luck for six years. Last Thursday Joe lost his eyes and his luck when he lost his dog in a snowstorm. Friday night Shimmy returned. She bounded up to lick her master's hands and tell him his guide was back, and Joe was happy. Yet Joe never guessed how real was the luck that Shimmy brought until last night.

Benjamin Gigg of the Metropolitan Opera has a blind brother and his brother has never found a dog like Shimmy to be "eyes" for him. In fact, Joe McDonough says there isn't another dog like Shimmy; there are dogs and dogs, but just one Shimmy. When the tenor whose brother is blind heard that Joe had lost his eyes he determined to buy the best substitute that could be found in dogdom to take Shimmy's place. Coming to fulfill that plan he learned that Joe's pal was back again. That is how Joe McDonough of Hard Knocks alley and Benjamin Gigg of the Metropolitan Opera came to their partnership.

MEN SEIZED WITH GUNS HAVE 'STRONG' PERMITS

Police Say Justice's Signature May Be Forged.

Following Magistrate Folwell's criticism of the alleged issuance by Justice Selah B. Strong of pistol permits to questionable characters, Detectives Dowd, Dineen and Bradley said yesterday that three men they arrested on the Manhattan Bridge Friday night carried revolvers and licenses bearing the name of Justice Strong. Whether the signatures were legitimate or forged was not learned. The police said each of the prisoners had been arrested several times but were not held, as they had permits.

The police said Justice Strong's name may have been forged to fake licenses. Detective Frank O'Hara arrested Eugene and Louis Nelmark, brothers, of 1110 Carroll street, Brooklyn, and Charles Gerdano, 55 Osborn street, Brooklyn, on a charge that they sold bogus licenses for chauffeurs at \$10 each. Frank Nobello, 159 Mulberry street, a chauffeur, made the complaint. The charge was extortion.

HEMPSTEAD CLAIMS BEACH IN OYSTER BAY

A strip of beach and meadow two miles long, heretofore supposed to be a part of the town of Oyster Bay, is, in reality, within the corporate limits of Hempstead, L. I., according to Alfred T. Davidson, counsel for the town of Hempstead. He found that the line dividing the two towns had been improperly located and that the property known as High Hill Beach, where hundreds of New York people have summer homes, should rightfully be in Hempstead territory.

The land, however, is not the property of the town. In 1908 the land was sold to Capt. John Seaman, who left it to his eight sons. It is now worth several hundred thousand dollars. There is no record of the Seaman brothers having disposed of it or of the whereabouts of their descendants.

NEW WITNESSES ARE FOUND IN HALL CASE

Their Evidence to Go Before Somerset Grand Jury on Tuesday.

HOPE FOR INDICTMENTS

Investigators, It Is Believed, to Depend Upon Members of St. John's.

MRS. MILLS IS MISSED

Choir Singer Had Trimmed Church Tree and Arranged Christmas Celebration.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Dec. 16.—Several witnesses who until this time had no connection with the Hall-Mills murder investigation have been unearthed by the new investigators working here, and their evidence will be presented before the new Somerset county Grand Jury, which will convene in Somerville on Tuesday. This fact became known to-day when the identity of one new worker was learned.

"You would be surprised if you knew the direction our efforts have taken," this investigator said to-night. "We hope to have our request granted to place the new evidence before the Grand Jury, and we feel that we have developed a case far stronger than the one that collapsed three weeks ago. Some of the previous witnesses will be called, although they will be questioned along entirely different lines," he added.

There is strong reason for the belief that the new witnesses are members of the congregation of the Church of St. John the Evangelist. The investigators have been working among members of the church, but have covered their moves so closely that none of the persons questioned knows of any one else who has been interviewed. Several members of the church and choir denied that they had been questioned or that they knew of any one who had.

Another situation to be met in Somerville, however, may nullify the work done by the new investigators. The feeling in Somerset county, especially since the Middlesex Board of Freeholders made it clear that they would not share the expense bill, is that the county is through with the case. There is strong sentiment against presenting the matter to the Grand Jury. The opinion in Somerset is that the case is finished, and has been expensive enough as it stands, and that there is no reason to bring it up again. Despite this sentiment the investigators will make a determined effort to have the case reopened and the new evidence presented. In this they will be supported by the private investigators who have been working for many weeks in the interest of persons specially interested in the case.

Many members of St. John's congregation are wondering who will take Mrs. Mills' place this year in supervising

Starts Eleventh 'Hitch' in Prison in 36 Years

GEORGE WILSON, also known as George King and George Moran, entered Sing Sing yesterday for his eleventh prison term and his fifth at Sing Sing. He begins a sentence of two years and two months following his conviction for grand larceny in The Bronx. He has the longest prison record of any prisoner in the custody of Warden Lawes, beginning with a commitment to the Private Reformatory in this city for truancy in 1886. Since then he has committed grand larceny, burglary and forgery many times. Besides his terms in Sing Sing he admits one term in Clinton Prison, one in the Federal prison at Fort Leavenworth, one in the House of Refuge and two in New York Penitentiary.

Last year the choir singer trimmed the church tree, took charge of the Christmas music and managed the holiday celebration, which has always been a gala event for the church. Other members of the choir are reluctant to undertake this work, and thus far there have been no preparations for the Yuletide affairs.

Jimmy Mills, still acting as sexton at the church, said to-day: "They'll miss my wife's work this year. Why, at this time a year ago she was out all day looking for Christmas tree greens, buying the tree and seeing to the decorations. Then she trimmed the tree and did it well. It's going to be a pretty poor Christmas for us here, I can tell you."

HOLDS GRUDIN GUILTY IN MOTOR TRAGEDY

Jury Verdict Is Second Degree Manslaughter.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Dec. 16.—After deliberating thirty minutes the jury last night returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter in the second degree against Morris Grudin, New York manufacturer, driver of the automobile which is alleged to have forced another car from the road between Cold Spring and Fishkill, resulting in the death of Mrs. Edith C. Brethout, a school teacher of Whitehouse, L. I. Grudin will be sentenced on Saturday, December 23, at Cold Spring by Judge Southard. His \$10,000 bail was continued.

All the occupants of the Grudin car were put on the stand and all testified that they knew nothing of the accident. Grudin also testified that he knew nothing of the accident. He said that the dent in the hub cap of his car and scratches on the fender were caused by striking a brick wall at a garage in New York city.

DR. STILLMAN CASE SET.

The \$150,000 damage suit alleging breach of contract brought against Dr. Ernest G. Stillman, brother of James A. Stillman, the banker, by Creswell MacLaughlin, a press agent, is scheduled to go to trial to-morrow before Supreme Court Justice Frank L. Young, sitting at Ossining.

MacLaughlin alleges that he was engaged by Dr. Stillman as a press agent, to promote the physician's political ambitions in Orange County. Dr. Stillman declares that MacLaughlin was employed by a Cornell newspaper and not by himself.

Dr. Stillman is chief of the fire department of Cornell.

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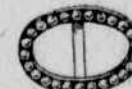
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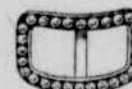
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